

Introduction to Terrestrial Energy Special Section

FOLLOWING a dramatic increase in interest in terrestrial applications of aerospace technology, the focus of this Special Section of the *Journal of Propulsion and Power* is to provide a generous cross section of recent studies. Provided here are 16 papers that have been presented recently at the AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting and Intersociety Energy Conversion Engineering Conference. The papers in this Special Section have emerged from sessions sponsored by the AIAA Terrestrial Energy Technical Committee, and have been painstakingly improved by the authors in response to editorial and reviewer suggestions, leading to the final form of contributions that follow. The Terrestrial Energy Technical Committee provides a pivotal role on the development and utilization of aerospace knowledge for terrestrial (land-based) applications, with a very extensive range of topics included within its charter. The committee has been actively pursuing numerous advanced energy conversion concepts for ter-

restrial applications with special emphasis on environmental pollution. These issues will indeed be of particular interest in the next millennium and especially so in the immediate future. The Special Section Editors to this volume sincerely appreciate the time and effort provided by the authors and reviewers. To readers of *JPP*, this Special Section provides an introduction to the ideas, techniques, research, and application in the Terrestrial Energy field.

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